

APPLICANT(S): GLUKHOVSKY, Arkady et al.
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Currently amended) ~~[[An]]~~ A swallowable in-vivo device comprising an internal battery; and an operation blocker disposed in said swallowable in vivo device to prevent activation of said device after a specified condition is satisfied.
2. (Original) The device as in claim 1, wherein said operation blocker is configured to permanently prevent activation of said in vivo device after a specified condition is satisfied.
3. (Original) The device as in claim 1, wherein said operation blocker comprises a non-volatile memory configured for assuming a designated state upon said satisfaction of said specified condition.
4. (Original) The device as in claim 1, wherein said specified condition is a total elapsed time of operation of said device.
5. (Original) The device as in claim 1, wherein said specified condition is reaching a pre-defined period of operation for a current operating session of said device.
6. (Original) The device as in claim 1, wherein said specified condition is a voltage level of a power source in said device.
7. (Original) The device as in claim 1, wherein said specified condition is a receipt of a command.
8. (Original) The device as in claim 1, further comprising a timer.
9. (Original) The device as in claim 1, wherein said specified condition is satisfied by a sensor of said device detecting a pre-defined external environment.
10. (Original) The device as in claim 1, wherein said device may be activated until said specified condition is satisfied.

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11. (Original) The device as in claim 1, wherein said specified condition is satisfied by a counter exceeding a predefined number of images captured by said device.
12. (Original) The device as in claim 1, wherein said operation blocker remains activated after removal or replacement of a battery.
13. (Original) The device as in claim 1, wherein said device is an autonomous in vivo device.
14. (Currently amended) An in-vivo sensing device comprising a non-volatile circuit to prevent reactivation of said device after said device has been used for a medical exam.
15. (Original) The device as in claim 14, further comprising a non-volatile memory.
16. (Original) The device as in claim 14, further comprising an operation blocker configured for preventing reactivation of said device after a specified condition has been satisfied.
17. (Original) A method for preventing reuse of an in-vivo device comprising activating a permanent operation blocker in said device upon satisfaction of a specified condition.
18. (Original) The method as in claim 17, wherein activating an operation blocker comprises burning a non-volatile memory unit into an activated position.
19. (Original) The method as in claim 17, wherein activating an operation blocker comprises melting of an insulation.
20. (Currently amended) A method for blocking activation of [[an]] a swallowable in vivo device comprising configuring a circuit to block activation of [[an]] a swallowable in-vivo device upon the satisfaction of a pre-defined condition.

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21. (Original) The method as in claim 20, wherein configuring a circuit comprises configuring a circuit to block activation of an in-vivo device upon a lapse of a pre-defined time period of operation of said device.
22. (Original) The method as in claim 20, wherein configuring a circuit comprises configuring a circuit to block activation of an in-vivo device upon said device capturing a pre-defined number of images.
23. (Original) The method as in claim 20; wherein configuring a circuit comprises configuring a circuit to block activation of an in-vivo device upon a voltage level in said device falling below a pre-determined voltage level.
24. (Original) The method as in claim 20, wherein configuring a circuit comprises configuring a circuit to block activation of an in-vivo device upon detection by a sensor of said device of a pre-defined external environment.
25. (Original) The method as in claim 20, further comprising configuring said circuit to permit continued operation of said device after the satisfaction of a pre-defined condition.
26. (Original) The method as in claim 20, further comprising receiving a signal from an external command unit to activate said circuit.
27. (Original) A method of operating an autonomous in-vivo sensing device, the method comprising permanently preventing the operation of said autonomous in-vivo sensing device upon the satisfaction of a specified condition.
28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein the operation of said autonomous in-vivo device includes imaging.
29. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said preventing comprises configuring a circuit to block activation of at least a portion of the device.

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30. (Original) The method of claim 27, comprising burning a memory.
31. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said specified condition is satisfied by a counter exceeding a predefined number of images captured by an imager.
32. (Original) The method as in claim 27, wherein said specified condition is satisfied upon the sensing of an in-vivo environmental condition.
33. (Original) The method as in claim 27, wherein said specified condition is satisfied upon a lapse of a predefined period of operation of said device.